

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

1 NOV 1979

Mr. Arthur F. Van Cook
Director, Information Security
Office of the Deputy Under Secretary
of Defense for Policy Review
Department of Defense
Room 3C260, The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Art:

Our classification review officers have suggested that it would be very helpful to have a joint working group composed of representatives from State, DOD, the military services, and CIA to coordinate the handling of common problems arising from the systematic review requirements of Executive Order 12065. This group could be augmented, as required, by representatives from other agencies. The group would develop procedures for the classification review of permanent records 20 years of age or older of mutual interest and serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas in declassification problems. Members of the group could also serve as focal points for referrals of permanent documents requiring systematic review by another member agency.

The first task envisaged for the group concerns the review of materials produced by the various interdepartmental committees or subcommittees established under the United States Intelligence Board or its predecessor, the Intelligence Advisory Committee. Among these were the National Intelligence Survey report series, and reports prepared by the Economic Intelligence Committee, and others. Once the problem of systematic review of interdepartmental reporting is resolved the group may concern itself with other systematic declassification problems where there is a mutuality of interests.

Should you consider the suggestion to have merit, the appointment of a representative or representatives to the working group would be appreciated. Such representatives may contact [redacted] STATINTL Chief, Intelligence Branch, Classification Review Division, on 351-2777 to arrange for an initial organizational meeting of agency representatives. We would very much appreciate your early response to this proposal.

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Sincerely,

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